REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. By this amendment, claim 1 is amended and new claims 15-18 are pending.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 USC 102 over O'Brien (USP 5,247,638). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

O'Brien does not disclose at least one first processor for controlling transfer to and from the cache unit of data which is transferred from said upper-level system and received at and transferred from said channel unit, and at least one second processor for controlling transfer to and from a disk drive of data which is stored at said cache unit and received at and transferred from a controller, as recited in claim 1. The first and second processors allow asynchronous transfer of data between the upper-level system, the channel unit, the cache unit and the control units. Because these features are missing from O'Brien, O'Brien does not anticipate claim 1 or any claim dependent therefrom.

For the above reasons, it is submitted that none of the pending claims are anticipated by or obvious over the applied references. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.
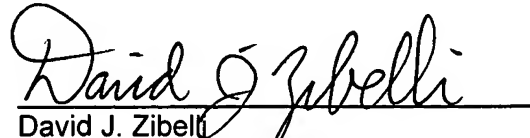
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

The Office is authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or

§ 1.17 or credit of any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 17, 2005

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